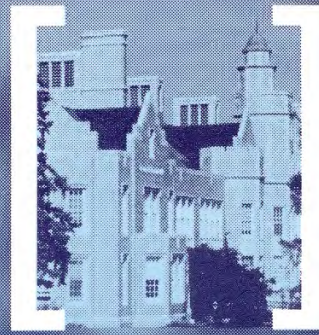


# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



JANUARY 19, 2007



## Two New Faces on the SUNY Plattsburgh College Council

**Salvatore Graven was appointed by former Gov. George Pataki to the SUNY Plattsburgh College Council** in December. Graven, (pictured left with former Lt. Gov. Mary O. Donohue) will complete the unexpired term of Suzanne Perley, who recently resigned from the council. His term will expire June 30, 2011.

Graven, a resident of Albany, N.Y., is a 2002 alumnus of SUNY Plattsburgh who graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science. Since 2002, Graven has worked in the Governor's Office. He served as an advance representative for the Governor's Scheduling Office from 2002 to 2004 and then served in the Executive Office as a special assistant and travel aide to Pataki.

"It is a great honor to receive this appointment by the governor," said Graven. "I'm excited to serve on the Council. It will be great to give back

to the College and community as an alumnus."

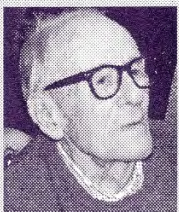
Joining Graven as a new College Council member is Kimberly Garrison, the new Student Association (SA) president elected at the end of last semester. Garrison, a junior anthropology major from Canajoharie, N.Y., ran unopposed for president. She served as the SA executive vice president this past year and is an active member of the campus community.

"The position of SA president means a lot to me because it has been held by some great campus leaders," said Garrison. "It gives me an opportunity to develop myself and others around me as we mature into a group of adults that will be successful in the future."

Garrison replaces Michael Cashman '03 G'06, who was the first president of the SA to be elected two consecutive terms. □

*"It will be great to give back to the College and community as an alumnus."*

## Campus Remembers Willard "Bill" Flynt



**SUNY Plattsburgh mourned the loss of Willard C. "Bill" Flynt**, who passed away Monday, Dec. 25, 2006 at the age

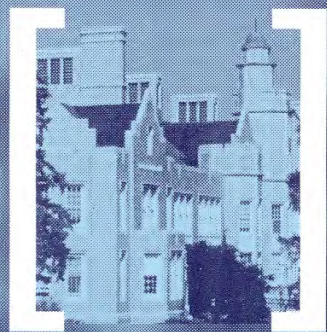
Mr. Flynt served the College for nearly 20 years, most notably as dean of students and, until his retirement in 1974, as the College's first vice president for student affairs. His devotion to the common welfare of the

Mr. Flynt remained close to SUNY Plattsburgh attending many events after his retirement. One of the last events he attended on campus was the naming of the SA offices in honor of William D.

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for student affairs, during  
Homecoming in October. □



# FOCUS

## Faculty Participate in Math Conference

**Five faculty members of the Mathematics Department recently participated**

**in the combined fall meeting of the Seaway and Metro**

**sections of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.**



Dr. Rob Keever, associate professor, gave the presentation, "Mathematics in Learning Communities." Keever is also the coordinator for learning communities at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Dr. Sam Northshield, professor, presented "The Stern and Fibonacci Diatomic Arrays." Dr. Greg Quenell, assistant professor, presented "Envelopes and String Art."

Justin Wampler, lecturer, and Dr. Margaret Morrow, associate professor, also attended the conference, which was held in October 2006.

Morrow, chair-elect of the Seaway section, participated on the joint planning committee for the fall meeting.

## Marketing Project Earns National Award for Two Students

**Two marketing students in the School of Business and Economics were recently presented the prestigious 2006 Collegiate Gold ECHO Award** during the Direct Marketing Association annual convention in San Francisco, Calif.

Michelle Poirier and Christine Ilardi traveled to California and were presented the award by comedian Dana Carvey during the convention's black tie gala.

"When I found out Michelle and I won the award, I was speechless," said Ilardi, a senior marketing major and graphic design minor from Glens Falls, N.Y. "The experience couldn't have been better. It was not only exciting that I was in San Francisco, but it was exciting to be surrounded by some of the best professionals in the marketing field. I am truly honored to have won the ECHO Award. It was an experience I will never forget."

Poirier, a senior marketing major from Piecelfield, N.Y., said that the team put a tremendous amount of work into the campaign project.

"Winning such a prestigious award was both very surprising and rewarding. It was an honor to receive recognition," said Poirier. "Our trip to San Francisco was fun. I enjoyed both the time spent at the convention and exploring the city."

The 2006 Direct Marketing Educational Foundation (DMEF) Leonard J. Raymond Collegiate ECHO competition, sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service, judged direct marketing campaign projects submitted by students from across the country. The SUNY Plattsburgh team was one of more than 120 entries in this year's competition.



The gold-winning SUNY Plattsburgh student team targeted marketing and advertising professionals at large organizations in the travel industry for their campaign entry, titled, "Enhance Your Campaign with Mail Moments."

Dr. Nancy Church, the students' faculty advisor and distinguished service professor and chair of marketing and entrepreneurship, said, "When I got their project in class, I knew it was the best one I've ever seen," said Church. "I was pretty excited for them and for SUNY Plattsburgh to have a winning team."

The students received a round-trip flight, accommodations and complimentary registration to the convention as part of their grand prize. Poirier and Ilardi also had the opportunity to present their award-winning campaign during a session at the convention.

Patrick O'Connell, program manager for advertising with the U.S. Postal Service said, "This entry also presented a complete budget, with appropriate monies to data processing, lettershop and production and postage. This is one of only a handful of teams that included a business reply card as a response device. This group displayed their intelligence by grasping the importance of this valuable response device and included its use. Bravo!"

# Student Exchange Program Between Canada, Mexico and the United States Supported by FIPSE Grant

**SUNY Plattsburgh has received its third North American Mobility Grant through the Fund** for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE), administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

"The purpose of the grant is to promote student exchanges between Canada, Mexico and the United States," said Dr. Nancy Church, distinguished service professor and chair of marketing and entrepreneurship in the School of Business and Economics, who took a lead in securing the grant.

The four-year grant, which began Sept. 1, 2006, with a budget of more than \$200,000, will be shared among SUNY Plattsburgh and its American partner institution, the University of

Northern Colorado. The two U.S. schools formed a consortium with two schools from Canada and two from Mexico. The grant provides a \$3,000 stipend to students to attend a full semester at one of the partner schools outside of their country of residence.

During this first year of the grant, the consortium partners are developing a memorandum of understanding of how the exchanges will work. The student exchanges will occur in the second, third and fourth years. Each partner institution will host students from the other two countries for a semester. The first exchange will send 12 students from Mexico and the United States to Capilano College in Vancouver,

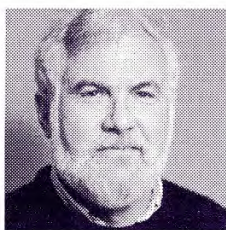
British Columbia, Canada. SUNY Plattsburgh will host exchange students from Canada and Mexico during the spring 2008 semester.

"These students will stay in the residence halls on campus, and we'll provide special programming and events for all participating students," said Church.

When hosting, each partner institution will also present a two-and-a-half-day symposium for the students as well as faculty members from the other schools in the consortium.

"Each grant has a theme," said Church. "The current grant's theme is 'Strategic Market Expansion in the NAFTA Nations.' Some of the courses offered to the exchange students will be targeted to the theme." □

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE

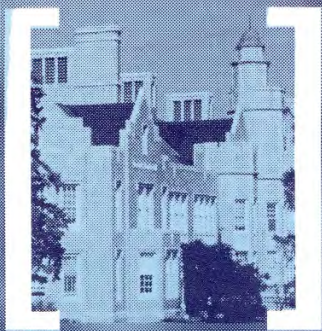


**Dr. Mark Cohen** presented a paper on prehistoric demography at a conference on the Neolithic Demographic Transition in December 2006 at Harvard University. The conference was inspired in significant part by Cohen's own work in the 1970s and '80s. He also presented a paper on theoretical approaches to Olmec prehistory at the International Conference of Americanistas in Seville, Spain, last summer.



**Allison Swick-Duttine**, director of Fraternity/Sorority Life and Leadership Development, was the recipient of two awards at the Association of Fraternity Advisors Annual Meeting in December 2006, in New Orleans, La. She received the Fraternal Information and Programming Group's Outstanding Educational Programming Award for her work educating students and colleagues about eliminating unrecognized former fraternal organizations. She also received the Association of Fraternity Advisors Outstanding Volunteer Award for her work as editor of *Perspectives*, the magazine of the association. Swick-Duttine co-facilitated four presentations during the conference: "Crossing the Line: Anti-Hazing Strategies for Campuses and Organizations"; "Working with Local Fraternities and Sororities"; "The Monster in the Basement: Unrecognized Groups and Their Threat to the Foundations of Fraternalism"; and "Values-Based Viruses: Empowering Students with Values-Based Conversation Tools to Spread Positive Change."

*To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)*



# FOCUS

## Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FOCUS is published eight times per semester by the Office of Public Relations at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh.

**Editor:** Frances Hagen Dumenci

**Art Director:** Paula Trahan '85

**Assistant Editor:** Gerianne Wright

### Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule

Feb. 2  
Feb. 16  
March 2  
March 23  
April 6  
April 20  
May 4

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### **Institutional Advancement**

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113 Hawkins Hall  
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[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## Diversity Director Consults on Important Anti-Bullying Project

**Bullying. It's a hot topic in education, especially with several incidents in the past,** including the school shootings at Columbine and Montreal.

J.W. Wiley, the director of the Center for Diversity, Pluralism and Inclusion, was the consultant for the Mountain Lake PBS Media Lab production of "Dissed-Respect: The Impact of Bullying." The video, which originally aired on Mountain Lake in October 2006, will soon be released on DVD format and marketed to educators nationally.

"This project was a partnership with the Plattsburgh City School District, which received a grant to make the video. I am a consultant on the project and worked with Rich Allen, the director of the media lab at Mountain Lake. We started running with it from there," said Wiley.

The video will be shown on campus Thursday, Feb. 1, in Yokum 200 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend this free showing.

The DVD is divided into two sections. The first part is specifically for school-aged children and runs



about a half hour. The second part, which is an hour long, is for educational professionals. A special feature, which is also included on the DVD, presents a 45-minute panel discussion by educators and administrators.

"This project is the thing I'm most proud of in my career so far," said Wiley, who worked more than 250 hours in the course of a year while the video was in production.

"Children learn about bullying from someone. This video provides a point of departure for conversation amongst kids and adults." □

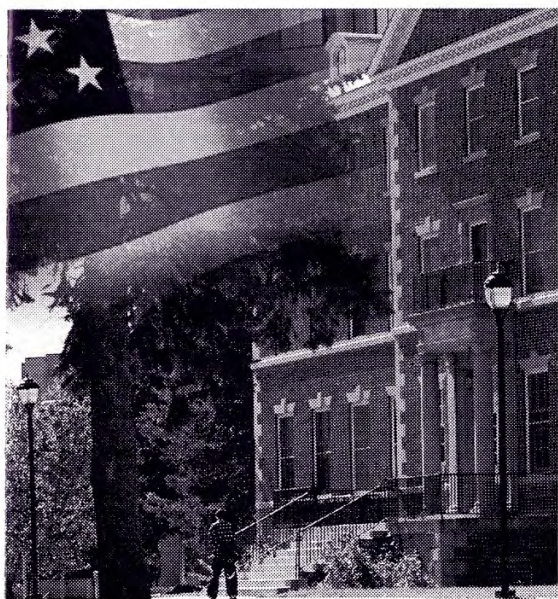
## >> NOTEBOOK

- The Adirondack Wind Ensemble (AWE) will celebrate its fifth anniversary with a gala concert on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 3 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall. To celebrate the five-year milestone, AWE will feature its first guest soloist, New York City saxophonist Paul Cohen, who will perform Ingolf Dahl's *Concerto for Saxophone* in its rarely heard original 1949 version. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and free for all students and are available only at the door on the afternoon of the performance. For more information, contact the Music Department at 564-2180.
- Van safety training classes will be held on Thursday, Jan. 25, Tuesday, Feb. 13, and Thursday, Feb. 22, from 1 to 4 p.m. The classes will be held in the Service Building Conference Room. Those interested in participating in one of these upcoming classes or for more information, contact Gina Doty at 564-5011.

# FOCUS



FEBRUARY 2, 2007



## SUNY Plattsburgh to Commence Officer Training Corps Classes in Fall

**SUNY Plattsburgh will offer students the opportunity to participate in an Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program beginning in fall 2007.**

After considering similar resolutions from both the student and faculty senates last fall, President John Ettling gave approval for the development of a partnership agreement between SUNY Plattsburgh and the Army ROTC program at the University of Vermont.

In fall 2007, two courses will be offered through the UVM Army ROTC partnership program at SUNY Plattsburgh. A one-credit first-year military science course, "Introduction to ROTC and the U.S. Army," will be offered to incoming freshmen. The other is a third-year course, "Leadership and Training for Small Organizations," offered to students who are either veterans of prior military service,

members of the Reserves or National Guard currently attending college, students who will be juniors in fall 2007 and will attend Cadet Basic Camp this summer, or current ROTC students transferring to SUNY Plattsburgh from another program.

The primary purpose of ROTC is to prepare college students to become officers in the active Army, Army National Guard or Army Reserves upon graduation.

"The plan is to have an office on campus staffed by a secretary and a full-time instructor assigned permanently to Plattsburgh from the UVM host program," said Dr. David Hill, dean of education, health and human services.

For more information on the SUNY Plattsburgh ROTC program, contact Dean Hill at 518-564-3066 or Lt. Col. Sephen Koebrich at UVM at 802-656-2966/5757. □

*The primary purpose of ROTC is to prepare college students to become officers in the active Army, Army National Guard or Army Reserves.*

## McKibben to Receive Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters

**The State University of New York through its College at Plattsburgh will bestow upon William McKibben the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, which will be presented during Winter Commencement next December.**

The environmentalist and author "personifies the values SUNY

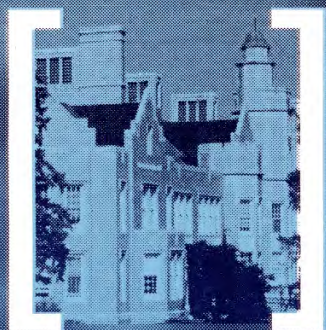
Plattsburgh hopes to instill in our students," said President John Ettling.

"Given the importance of his message, his presence on our campus both in his writings and in his lectures, it is fitting that SUNY award him this honorary degree."

He was most recently on campus in

March 2006 as a guest speaker in the Profiles in Commitment Lecture Series.

McKibben was one of the first environmentalists to sound the alarm about global warming in his 1989 book, *The End of Nature*, and about overpopulation in *Maybe One*. □



## FOCUS

### For the Record

**What happens to all the records – payroll, financial, accounting, personnel, purchasing, blue prints, medical, insurance, student, and others – generated by the College?** Gina Doty, the new records manager in Business Affairs, is responsible for developing and implementing a campus records-management program.

"There is a policy for all SUNY schools about record retention, mandated timeframes about what records need to be kept and for how long," said Doty. "I am drafting policies and procedures for the campus so that we stay in compliance with SUNY regulations." ■

As part of her job, which she began in August 2006, Doty is creating a survey that will be sent to all administrative staff members in February.

"It is very important that people respond to the survey so I can help them with managing their records," said Doty. "Records are becoming very important in how we do business. It is really important for us to know where they are and how to find them. I will be coordinating with all departments and their records." □

## State Education Department Approves Strategic Plan for Accreditation

### The Teacher Education Program at SUNY Plattsburgh sent the State Education

Department a plan for the revision of its teacher preparation programs with the request for a deferral to the deadline for national accreditation.

The plan will give the College until January 2010 to achieve national accreditation for its teacher education program. The program is currently seeking accreditation from the Teacher Education Accreditation Council.

"The plan we sent to the State Education Department outlines what we need to accomplish in order to achieve national accreditation of our programs," said Dr. David Hill, dean of education, health and human services. "The outline includes proposed actions, timelines, responsibilities, budget, expected outcomes and assessment."

The areas for improvement in the teacher preparation programs came from concerns identified by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education during its visit to campus in September 2004.

"We have been working on these areas for the past two years," said Hill. "We are in the process of a comprehensive review of all teacher education programs to make sure that they are aligned with each other in terms of having the same general goals," said Hill. "In addition, we have designed a comprehensive assessment system that will allow us to show how well we're preparing professional educators and to recognize areas in which we should design program improvements." □



The teacher education program is currently addressing three primary areas: improving program coherence; developing and implementing an assessment system; and reviewing program content, making sure it is not only up to date but also anticipates the needs of schools in the future.

Progress has included the hiring of an assessment expert; program changes that have been approved by the Faculty Senate for the Childhood Education Program; and working on changes to the literacy and special education programs as well as the master's program. In addition, there has been improved communication and consultation with school districts throughout the region.

"The State Education Department's approval for a deferral is an acknowledgement that we have a good plan to improve our programs. I feel pretty good about this. We're well on the way," said Hill. "This work will allow us to move forward with exciting changes and improvements in our teacher education programs. The faculty has been working diligently and productively on program updates – they have done a lot of good work on this." □

# Moving forward with the new Student-Alumni Center for Professional Development

**Michael Cashman '03 G'06** has been named the coordinator of the new Student-Alumni Center for Professional Development. The one-year appointment is part of the strategic initiative approved by President John Ettling last summer.

Cashman's responsibilities will include making connections between current and former members of the student body.

"Students and alumni will be able to connect virtually via the Web," said Cashman. "For example, a student may be considering a certain career path, and he or she may want to tap into the wisdom of one of our dynamic alumni in the field to get a better understanding of the career."

Connections will not be confined

to students reaching out to alumni – alumni will also have the opportunity to talk with fellow alumni about career advice.

Carolyn Delcore, director of the Career Development Center, worked together with Rose Anderson '95, director of alumni affairs, to propose the center as a strategic initiative.

"Promoting student awareness and use of the Center will be a priority in the first phase of its operation," said Delcore. "Equally important will be efforts to solicit input from faculty regarding how best to strengthen connections among students, faculty and alumni."

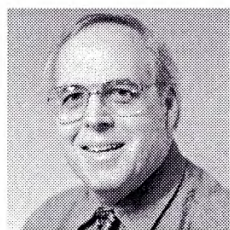
A few goals of the new position include reconnecting alumni to the College and helping current students

understand what the "Plattsburgh Spirit" is and how they can be successful post graduation.

"I am very excited to be working with Rose and Carolyn," Cashman said. "I'm just as excited to have the opportunity to work with members of the SUNY Plattsburgh family – students, faculty, staff and alumni – in this new position because I truly believe this is a fantastic institution with so many talented people."

Anderson said that the Center is the realization of one of three goals in terms of how alumni are connected with the College. The three goals are to engage alumni in referring prospective students, in career networking on all levels, and in giving to the College. □

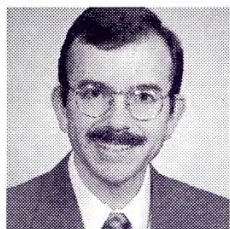
## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



**Dr. Gary Brannigan**, professor of psychology, co-authored the article, "The Bender-Gestalt II," which was published in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*. The article was commissioned by the Board of the American Orthopsychiatric Association to honor the major research on the Bender-Gestalt Test, published in 1938, and the Bender-Gestalt II, published in 2003. In an introduction to the article, Dr. Richard Ruth noted, "The revised test, still simple and still elegant, is affordable (no small virtue), psychometrically sound and robust and still among the most useful and powerful of tools for clinical psychologists, school psychologists and neuropsychologists around the world."

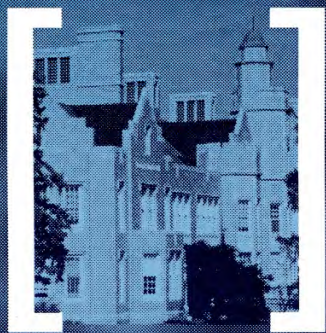


**Dr. Kathleen Lavoie**, dean of arts and science, co-authored the book chapter, "Preserving the Unseen as you Clean," which appeared in *Cave Conservation and Restoration* (National Speleological Society, 2006).



**Mark Richard**, associate professor of history and Canadian studies, presented a paper on "The K.K.K. in French-Speaking Centers of Maine in the 1920s" at the October 2006 meeting of the American Council for Québec Studies, held in Cambridge, Mass.

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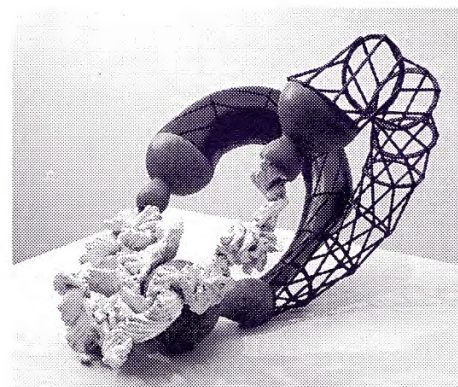
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[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## NYC Painter, Sculptor Share Exhibit In Plattsburgh State Art Museum

The Plattsburgh State Art Museum is pleased to present "Two Mediums, One World," an exhibition featuring the work of two prominent artists from New York City.

The exhibit of paintings by Hermine Ford and sculptures by John Newman opens to the public Saturday, Feb. 10, beginning at 3 p.m. with a discussion by the artists in Yokum Hall, room 200. An opening reception at the Burke Gallery, Myers Fine Arts Building will follow. This special exhibition, which will be on display through April 7, is presented in collaboration with Norte Maar. The discussion and reception are free and open to everyone.

Ford (b.1939) paints patterns. Combining textiles of cultures, mosaics of the past, she interlaces her compositions with brushwork and drawing inspired by topography, landscape, bends in a river and shapes of stones. Ford's work can be found in many prominent public collections including Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, D.C.),



Hood Museum at Dartmouth (Hanover, N.H.) and the Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York City), to name a few.

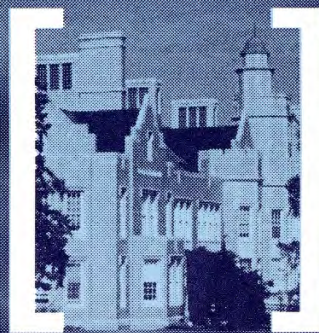
Newman (b.1952) sculpts metaphors. Mixing metal and stone, paper and glass with a combination of advanced technology and primal techniques, he creates personages that exist as characters acting out the artists' unique dialogue. Newman's work can be found in many prominent public exhibits including the Art Institute of Chicago, Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art (New York City), among others. □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- The Institute on Quebec Studies invites you to its third annual Distinguished Quebec Address on Monday, Feb. 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the Krinovitz Recital Hall, Hawkins Hall. Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, minister of international relations and minister responsible for la Francophonie, will deliver the address "Quebec's New International Policy: Enhancing Ties with the United States." For more information, contact Manon Bradley at 564-2385 or [bradlemn@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:bradlemn@plattsburgh.edu)
- The Upward Bound Program is seeking tutor-counselors for its 2007 summer program. This position runs from June 18 to Aug. 7. Salary ranges from \$1,900 to \$2,200, plus room and board (contingent on funding). Applications are available at the Angell College Center Information Desk or at the Upward Bound Office, 010 Hawkins Hall. First consideration will be given to applicants received by Friday, Feb. 19. For more information, call 564-2030.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH



FEBRUARY 16, 2007



*"We're very proud to be the first college or university in the nation to offer a minor in Québec studies."*

— Dr. Christopher Kirkey  
Director of the Institute on Québec Studies and  
Director of the Center for the Study of Canada

## SUNY Plattsburgh Announces New Québec Studies Program

**SUNY Plattsburgh is the first to offer students in the United States**

the opportunity to pursue a minor in Québec Studies through the College's Center for the Study of Canada and Institute on Québec Studies.

The program, which consists of 18 credits and courses ranging from Québec politics to history of the French in North American, officially began this semester.

"This is truly an exciting announcement," said Dr. Christopher Kirkey, director of the Institute on Québec Studies and the Center for the Study of Canada.

"We're very proud to be the first college or university in the nation to offer a minor in Québec studies. We are pleased to offer this program to SUNY Plattsburgh students."

The announcement of the new program was made during the third annual Distinguished Québec

Address, Feb. 5 (see story below).

Students in the new minor program must complete at least one three-credit French course and may complete an internship or an independent study project on Québec.

Dr. Mark Richard, associate director of the Institute, will be the advisor for students in the Québec Studies program.

"This is a great opportunity for students who want to study Canada and in particular Québec," said Richard. "SUNY Plattsburgh, with its proximity and ties to Québec, is the perfect institution to offer this one-of-a-kind course of study. The minor will enhance career opportunities for students, including teaching, public service in state or Québec government or business."

For more information on the minor, contact the Institute on Québec Studies at 564-2226. □

## Québec Provincial Minister Visits Campus

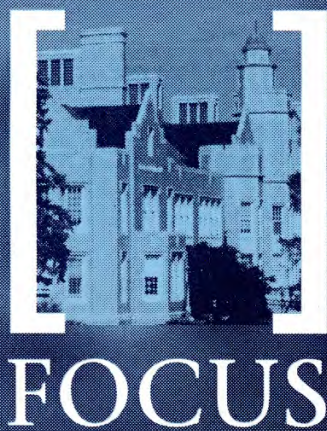
**The Institute on Québec Studies recently presented its third annual Distinguished Québec Address** featuring Madame Monique Gagnon-Tremblay, the minister of international relations and minister responsible for La Francophonie, who spoke about Québec's new international policy and enhancing ties with the United States.

Gagnon-Tremblay has served as minister since April 2003. She is responsible for developing and implementing Québec's actions on the world stage with the support of its offices and delegations abroad.

She has had a long career in public service, including 18 years as a member of the National Assembly of Québec

and has held a number of key positions in the governments of premiers Robert Bourassa and Daniel Johnson, Jr.

A graduate of Université Laval and Université de Sherbrooke, Gagnon-Tremblay was a notary and notarial law specialist prior to entering politics. □



## Freed Slave Focus of Papson Lecture Feb. 17

**Historian Don Papson will share his exciting discovery of the life of a runaway slave** who died a free and respected man in the Adirondacks during a presentation on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 11 a.m.

His talk, "Discovering the Story of John Thomas: From Slavery in Maryland to American Citizenship in the Adirondacks," will be held in the Feinberg Library's Special Collections (lower level).

The presentation is free and open to the public, however reservations are requested. Coffee and refreshments will be served. Contact Debra Kimok, Special Collections librarian, at 564-5206 or [debra.kimok@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:debra.kimok@plattsburgh.edu)

Papson's research began one day at Special Collections when he found an 1872 letter sent by John Thomas to his benefactor and New York's wealthiest abolitionist, Gerrit Smith. Smith had circumvented the state's discriminatory voting qualifications law in 1846 by offering parcels of his vast land holdings to 3,000 Black men so they could qualify to vote.

Until Papson discovered John Thomas' letter and investigated its contents, historians believed that Smith had never given any land to fugitive slaves. However, this letter revealed that Thomas accepted 40 acres in Franklin County, and by 1872, he was the proud owner of 200 acres.

After a year of searching obituaries, land deeds, census records, cemeteries, archives and Civil War records, Papson made the most amazing discovery of all – he found two of



Thomas' great-great grandsons living in the Adirondacks. Until that time, these men had known nothing about their great-great grandfather.

The story of John Thomas has changed the lives of his descendants. It has made the Underground Railroad of the 19th century relevant to the 21st. And it has rewritten history.

In conjunction with this presentation, an exhibit about the Underground Railroad has been installed in Feinberg Library's second floor display case. The narrative and much of the material in this exhibit was donated by Papson.

Papson combines his training as an educator and his interests in historical research and creative writing to compose essays, lectures, historical readings and plays to reveal the hidden stories of our history. He has presented lectures on the abolition of slavery in New York, African Americans in the Battle of Plattsburgh and the American Revolution, Mohawks in the Civil War and the Underground Railroad. He is President of the North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association.

He and his wife, Vivian Papson, (pictured above) recently participated in the Profiles in Commitment Lecture Series at the College. They spoke about what serving the community means to them. □

## Take Action on Hate Crimes

**SUNY Plattsburgh will sponsor a "Stop the Hate" Training Program** Tuesday – Thursday, March 20 – 22. This will be an opportunity for college students, faculty and staff to learn innovative tools to take action on hate crimes and bias-motivated violence issues.

"This training will be rewarding to anyone interested in improving the campus environment," said Ashley Burczak, coordinator of the Violence Prevention Project.

Participants in the training program, receive a hate crime prevention training manual, skills and information to teach students, faculty and staff on anti-hate initiatives and suggested approaches to respond to hate crimes and bias-motivated incidents. They will also learn about hate crime legislation, expert resources and access to current hate crime issues and materials as well as ongoing resources and support.

For more information or to register, visit [www.stophate.org](http://www.stophate.org) or contact the Violence Prevention Project at 564-4028. Please note that the early bird registration deadline is Monday, Feb. 19. □

# Latest Fulbright Scholar to Travel to Egypt this Spring to Research Librarianship

Imagine spending three months in a new, strange and wondrous place. Holly Heller-Ross, associate librarian, will have that opportunity when she travels to Cairo, Egypt this spring.

Heller-Ross was awarded a three-month research grant as a 2006-07 U.S. Fulbright Scholar to Egypt. While in Cairo, she will be affiliated with the Ministry of Higher Education, Cultural Affairs Office and will conduct research at the University of Cairo and American University in Cairo from April to June.

Cairo was her first choice, and she is extremely excited about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"It's scary and amazing at the

same time," said Heller-Ross. "When I was awarded the Fulbright Scholarship, a sense of obligation fell over me to do really good work so that I will be an excellent representative of not only SUNY Plattsburgh but of the United States of America."

Heller-Ross chose Cairo for three reasons: the University of Cairo is the largest university for librarianship in the Middle East; American University in Cairo has a large student population that consists of international students; and she had always wanted to go to Egypt.

She is interested to learn their strategies for teaching students with very different cultural backgrounds. For example, teaching information

literacy to students who speak different languages.

Her main focus of study in Egypt will be to investigate cross-cultural teaching applications of information literacy. Her research will include the collection of qualitative data on how faculty in Egypt teach information literacy skills and to identify cultural differences in information use that American librarians should be addressing with international students.

"It will benefit me professionally by giving me a better understanding of international students," she said. □

— Jennifer Newman



## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE

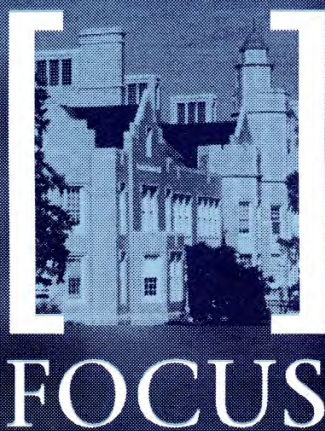


**Dr. William Pfaff**, assistant professor of music, attended the College Music Society Summer Institute for Music History Pedagogy in Indianapolis. The Institute was designed to address new pedagogies of music history; repertoires such as American, popular, women's and ethnic music; and culture and other arts as they relate to music history. The program was attended by more than 40 participants and featured lectures by 10 leading scholars.



**Dr. Shakuntala Rao**, associate professor of communication, was invited to give the keynote address at an international conference on journalism ethics held in New Delhi, India, in November 2006. The conference was hosted by the Press Council of India and Reporters Without Borders. Rao's speech was titled, "Ethics Matters: Journalism in the Age of Globalization." She has published extensively on journalism ethics and globalization in Asia and has also been involved in training and in conducting workshops on ethics for print and television journalists in India, Pakistan and the United States. She is a regular columnist for one of the largest newspapers in India, *The Tribune*.

*To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)*



# Plattsburgh

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**Editor:** Frances Hagen Dumenci  
**Art Director:** Paula Trahan '85  
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## Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule

March 2  
 March 23  
 April 6  
 April 20  
 May 4

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## **Institutional Advancement**

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[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## Gospel Choir Presents Vocal Clinic and A Cappella Concert

**In honor of Black History Month, the Gospel Choir presents its fifth annual A Cappella Concert with several special guests and a vocal clinic.**

All students and community members are welcome to participate in the vocal clinic on Friday, Feb. 23, from 5 to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Myers Fine Arts Building, room 300, and 1:45 to 3:40 p.m. in Yokum Hall, room 200. The clinic, which costs \$10, will feature special guest Dr. Raymond Wise from the Center for the Gospel Arts in Columbus, Ohio. The workshop will include such topics as vocal technique, musical performance, Negro spirituals and gospel music history.

Clinic participants will be encouraged to perform in the fifth annual A Cappella Concert on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. in the Plattsburgh High School Auditorium. They will be joined by the Plattsburgh State Gospel Choir directed by Dr. Dexter Criss with special guest Dr. Francois S. Clemmons and The Stand Vocal Band directed by Benjamin Bright.

Clemmons is a Grammy Award



winning actor seen in "Porgy and Bess" and "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." He is also a poet and has been published in numerous magazines, including *Black World*, and in notable anthologies, including "A Galaxy of Black Writing."

Tickets for the concert are \$1 with the proceeds to benefit the North Country Underground Railroad Association or a canned food item to benefit the Clinton County Food Shelf. For more information, call 564-2078. □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- The next Diversity Film Series, which is sponsored by the Center for Diversity, Pluralism and Inclusion, will feature the film, *Malcolm X*, on Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium in Hawkins Hall. A moderated discussion follows the movie. This event is free. For more information, contact the center at 564-5410.
- The Theatre Department presents *Fuddy Meers*, a play by David Lindsay-Abaire. The production, directed by Dr. Timothy Palkovic, professor of theatre, will be performed Thursday – Saturday, March 1 – 3 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 4, at 2 p.m. in the Hartman Theatre, Myers Fine Arts Building. Dr. Bill Pfaff, assistant professor of music, wrote the original incidental music for the play. Tickets, which are available at the Angell College Center Information Desk, are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for faculty, staff, seniors and non-SUNY Plattsburgh students, and \$2 for SUNY Plattsburgh students.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



MARCH 2, 2007



## Month of Action a Call to Examine Global and National Issues

**SUNY Plattsburgh is joining colleges and universities across the country in a Month of Action** to raise student awareness on local, national and global issues that impact everyone.

According to Dean DeLano '02, coordinator of the Plattsburgh Student Service Corps in the Center for Service Learning and Volunteerism, a Month of Action "is a nation-wide challenge to encourage students to take action, speak out and raise their voice on social, political and global issues. It is supported by Campus Compact, a national resource for educational institutions from elementary to higher education."

Some of the events on the schedule include discussions on concerns in Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Brazil and the United States. International human rights, democracy, environmental rights, poverty and AIDS/HIV are among other

topics being discussed.

"We will increase campus-wide discussions about the issues presented during a Month of Action and form concrete plans to make positive change for the people and environment impacted by these issues," he said. "We view a Month of Action as a springboard event that will raise awareness and encourage students to get involved in their communities."

A Celebration of Accomplishment will be held Friday, March 23 from 12 to 2 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms "to reflect on SUNY Plattsburgh's accomplishments and get a perspective on what we are doing to continue the momentum," DeLano said. Included in the celebration will be an open mike for groups to play music, read poetry and share experiences.

For more information contact DeLano at [servicecorps@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:servicecorps@plattsburgh.edu) or call 564-4848. □

*"We view a Month of Action as a springboard event that will raise awareness..."*

— Dean DeLano '02

Coordinator, Plattsburgh Student Service Corps

## Students Skip Spring Break Vacation to Volunteer

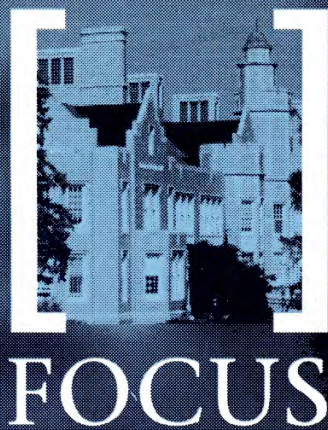
**About 65 students will provide service to others instead of taking a traditional spring break holiday.**

They will travel to seven different locations March 10-18 to engage in community service activities through the Alternative Spring Break Program.

The program has been in existence at the College since 1994.

During spring break, student volunteers will be working in Jackson, Tenn., Greensboro, Ga., and Bridgeport, Conn., with Habitat for Humanity building homes for low-income families. In Bridgeton, N.J., students will work with at-risk pre-school and Head Start programs. Other students will volunteer at the Capital Area Therapeutic

Riding Association in Grantville, Pa.. Still others will travel to Pursglove, W. Va., and volunteer at the Shack Community Center, and Mount Rogers, Va., to work on environmental conservation projects such as clearing, building bridges and re-routing streams to improve hiking trails. □



## Support Groups Offered

**The Center for Student Health and Psychological Services offers several support groups.** To register for any of the following groups, call 564-3096.

The General Psychotherapy Group is facilitated by Kathryn Haendiges, Psy.D. Meeting time and day is to be announced. This group helps students with mental health and relationship issues.

The Healthy Lifestyles Group is facilitated by Carol Shuttleworth, Ph.D., and co-facilitated by Amanda Haley, a counselor education graduate student. The group meets Fridays, 3 to 4 p.m., and offers information on time and stress management, study skills and healthy habits.

The Anger Management group, which meets Mondays from 1 to 2 p.m., is facilitated by Christy Minck, M.A., LMHC, and co-facilitated by Kristina Moquin, a counseling graduate intern. It focuses on teaching cognitive, relaxation and communication skills.

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Support Group is facilitated by Haendiges. Meeting time and day is to be announced.

## Public Relations Students Organize Relay for Life Event

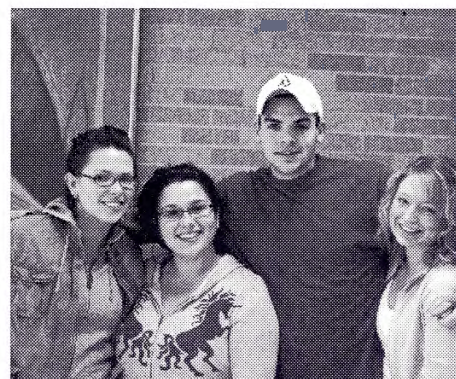
**SUNY Plattsburgh public relations students are getting the opportunity to take what they have learned in the classroom and apply it to the real world.** The College will host Relay for Life, an event to benefit the American Cancer Society, on Friday, March 30, at the Field House.

Relay for Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to bring together community members who have been affected by cancer. The event will feature music, a celebration of survivorship and celebration of life. Participants sign up as teams and take turns walking or running around the candle-lit indoor track throughout the night.

Joan Brown, director of the American Cancer Society office in Rouses Point and relay coordinator, said there is usually one community relay, which is held annually at the Clinton County Fair grounds. This year, however, there will be two Relay for Life events. The relay hosted by the College was the direct result of work by students Aimee Chauvot from Berne, N.Y., and Kara Strang from Poughquag, N.Y.

Chauvot joined forces with three other students to bring Relay to Life to campus. Dave Pariot from Pine Bush, N.Y., Kaitlyn Emory from Berne, N.Y., and Tali Levi-Crouch from Red Hook, N.Y., are public-relations and advertising majors in the Center for Communication and Journalism. Working with Dr. Jonathan Slater, assistant professor of communication, these four students created an integrated marketing and advertising campaign for the Relay for Life event.

"Working on social marketing opens up the students' minds to the fact that not all public relations and advertising is done for commercial ends. It can also be done for worthy causes," said Slater.



According to the students, the goals for their campaign are to raise awareness and increase involvement of the campus community.

"We want to make this a big event," said Chauvot. "This is the first time an event like this is happening on the SUNY Plattsburgh campus, and we want it to continue on long after we are gone."

For any student planning a future in public relations, hands on experience is essential, and these four students are getting just that.

Working on this event has created numerous opportunities for the students and the project is allowing them to experience the world of public relations outside of the classroom.

"This is what I want to do. I want to be an events planner, and I can gain that experience from working on this event," said Chauvot.

The group wants the community to enjoy participating in the relay.

"We want the event to be fun and educational," said Pariot.

"It's also awesome in the sense that we get to leave our mark and hope that the freshmen and sophomores will pick up where we left off and continue the event," added Levi-Crouch. "It's a good cause and helps raise awareness for cancer. Relay for Life will allow the campus community to participate in an amazing celebration for life." □

— Jennifer Newman

# SUNY Plattsburgh Graduate Finds Herself Teaching Sociology at her Alma Mater

**Some of Danielle Bouvier's best classes are those in which the students are not listening to her.** They are listening to each another.

"My classes aren't about getting students to agree with me or my ideas," said Bouvier, adjunct lecturer in sociology. "My goal is to present them with another way of looking at the world. I want my students to explore the broader social influences that explain individual behavior. This can lead to some lively discussions."

Bouvier delves into all the hot-button issues in her sociology of women classes. These issues include but are not limited to race, gender, class, politics and sexuality. She prides herself on creating an open, honest environment in her classroom that

allows students to talk about issues they might feel uncomfortable discussing in other settings.

"Danielle was really an inspiration to me to go into sociology as a major," said Tracy Koch, a senior from Merrick, N.Y. "I really developed an open mind and now look at our society much differently."

"Students are willing to talk about their lives and what they see their roles as being," said Bouvier. "But it takes time to develop critical thinking. I don't mean criticizing or pointing out problems. I mean analyzing social life and thinking about what they can do to make a difference."

Bouvier grew up in Peru, N.Y., and received her bachelor's degree in social work and a master's degree in

counseling from SUNY Plattsburgh. She also started working on her doctorate at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she studied counseling and psychology.

Bouvier joined the faculty at SUNY Plattsburgh in 2005. In addition to the smaller class size, she values the College's liberal arts traditions. One of the appealing aspects of sociology program, she said, is that it pairs well with other disciplines that have different yet complimentary ideas.

For example, Bouvier would like to develop two new courses; sociology of media and sociology of spirituality. Bouvier plans to travel to Greece this summer and study spirituality and hypnosis. □

— Hilary Tetreault

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



**Dr. Rick Davies**, associate professor of music, has one of his pieces of music featured on the GEICO insurance company interactive Website featuring the "caveman's crib," a take-off from one of their commercials. Go to [www.cavemanscrib.com](http://www.cavemanscrib.com) and click on the MP3 player on the coffee table to the left. Davies song, "Rumba Nortena," is listed in the music selections. Also featured on the site is a write-up about Davies' music, which is available by clicking on the magazine laying on the coffee table to the right.



**Dr. Gary Kroll**, assistant professor of history, is co-author of the new book, *Exploration and Science* (ABC-CLIO), which examines western scientific exploration as a rich social and cultural activity. It eschews the hagiographic voice that is so typical in the history of exploration and pulls together recent histories of science and exploration that recast the history of exploration as messy, imperial, hegemonic and sometimes just a little inhumane. The co-authors are Michael Reidy, associate professor of history at Montana State University, and Erik Conway, a historian working at NASA.

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# FOCUS

## Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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## Spanish and Journalism Student into Hip-Hop and Writing

**Carlos Moses is casually cool, lounging in a recording studio in Saranac Lake.** The small, square studio looks like half living room and half recording space. It is here that Moses plans on recording his first hip-hop record.

A junior, 25-year-old Moses is studying Spanish and journalism. His true passion is making music.

Moses was born in Argentina and moved to New York when he was very young. His mom sowed the seeds for her son's lifelong devotion to music by taking him to concerts in Albany. Later, his dad brought home a guitar, which Moses secretly played while he was out. In middle school, he started listening to hip-hop and would create his own rhymes.

"I started rhyming with my friend Sammy Franklin, and we would be able to rhyme about anything that happened," said Moses. "I just know how to put words together, but really didn't take it seriously at first."

Not only is Moses busy working on his first album, he has also started writing his first novel.

"The writing is coming slow, but



surely," said Moses. "The novel will be about growing up in the United States, being a different nationality and the struggles that come along with it."

Moses expects to graduate May 2008. He then plans on working more on his music and writing.

"Being at Plattsburgh State has opened my eyes to so many different things. With the small classes, and supportive staff, I really wouldn't want to finish my college career anywhere else." □

— Hilary Tetreault

## >> NOTEBOOK

- The next Diversity Film Series, which is sponsored by the Center for Diversity, Pluralism and Inclusion, will feature the film, *Courage Under Fire*, on Tuesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium in Hawkins Hall. A moderated discussion follows the movie. This event is free. For more information, contact CDPI at 564-5410.
- The American Diabetes Association will host the Second Annual America's Walk for Diabetes, in Plattsburgh at the Champlain Center Mall on Saturday, March 24. This year, a Diabetes Health Festival will be added to the day's events. Everyone is welcome to visit the vendor tables as representatives from local health organizations and leading pharmaceutical companies will be on hand to answer all your questions about diabetes care and upcoming technology. For more information on America's Walk for Diabetes, to sign up as a walker, sponsor or volunteer, please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-888-DIABETES ext. 3649.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



MARCH 2011

## Jennifer Dubuque Joins Advancement Team as Associate Vice President

**Jennifer Dubuque began in her new role as associate vice president for development** on March 12. Dubuque comes to Plattsburgh by way of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., where she served as an advancement officer and associate director of major gifts.

"I was at Rensselaer for 10 years and saw the associate vice president position at Plattsburgh as an opportunity to get onto the ground floor of a comprehensive campaign and be here for the whole process," said Dubuque, who is not entirely unfamiliar with the North Country. "My in-laws reside in Rouses Point, so this was also an opportunity to move closer to family."

First and foremost, her goals are to learn about the culture of Plattsburgh and get to know the College and its community members, including faculty, staff,

students, administrators and Plattsburgh community members.

"I'm very excited about being here," she said. "It's always exciting to help build new programs and to secure increased support for students."

Dubuque will work closely with Anne Hansen, vice president for advancement.

"I am thrilled that Jennifer has joined SUNY Plattsburgh," said Hansen. "Jennifer will play an integral role in assisting the advancement management team to build an integrated advancement program, which is focused on fostering life-long relationships with students, alumni and friends."

According to Hansen, Dubuque will provide overall direction for the development office, including overseeing and directing the activities of annual giving staff members as well as building a major gift program. □

*"It's always exciting to help build new programs and to secure increased support for students."*

— Jennifer Dubuque

Associate Vice President, Institutional Advancement

## Chancellor to Step Down in May

State University of New York Chancellor John R. Ryan announced that he will step down as chancellor effective at the end of May to become the president and CEO of the Center for Creative Leadership, headquartered in Greensboro, N.C.

In making his announcement, Ryan said, "I have greatly enjoyed

my five years at the State University of New York, first as president of the Maritime College, then as interim president of the University at Albany and for the past two years as your chancellor. With the team of outstanding campus presidents, highly skilled administrators and staff at the System and campus levels, a strong faculty

that will become truly exceptional with the hundreds of new scholars now being hired and the largest student enrollment in our history, SUNY is advancing toward the threshold of greatness."

The SUNY Board of Trustees will name an interim chancellor later in the spring. □



## FOCUS

### Servathon Helps Fight Hunger

**Sodexo Campus Services has challenged its employees and the campus community** to work together in the fight against hunger through its annual Servathon, Monday - Friday, April 9 - 13.

Participants will be collecting food for the Interfaith Food Shelf. As part of the food drive, prizes will be awarded to the residence halls and campus office that raise the highest monetary value in food.

A raffle, featuring prizes from local businesses, will also be held to raise funds for the Trinity Community Meal Center. The Sodexo employee who sells the most raffle tickets will receive a prize.

On Wednesday, April 11, a dessert social will be held in the Cardinal Lounge from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. A variety of Green Mt. coffees and gourmet desserts will be available all for \$3. That same evening, staff will help prepare and serve dinner at Trinity Community Meal Center.

Friday, April 13 will be "Buy a Jean Day." To benefit Trinity, Sodexo employees can donate \$5 in order to wear jeans to work.

For more information, call Amy Rascoe at 564-4092.

## Former Assemblyman Donates Papers to Special Collections Unit

Calling it a "tip of the iceberg" of the history of the region over the past two decades, recently-retired Assemblyman Chris Ortloff has donated the collection of his Assembly term papers to SUNY Plattsburgh.

Ortloff has turned over to the Special Collections Unit of Feinberg Library more than 110 cubic feet of materials documenting the 20 years he represented Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence and Essex counties in the New York State Assembly and in public life.

"The life and the work of an elected official are only partly about politics. Politics gets you into office and keeps you there. But, your life and work are about everything in the community," said Ortloff. "If it was just about me, I don't know how much value it would have. But, the fact that I was the representative of 130,000 people, and that my office collected significant pieces of their lives over 20 years, I believe has value and merit."

Ortloff was elected to the New York State Assembly in a special election in February 1986 following the resignation of long-term Assemblyman Andrew Ryan. Ortloff served for 20 years until former Gov. George Pataki appointed him a commissioner on the New York State Parole Board in June 2006.

Ortloff, an avid historian, said that researchers, other historians and community members would find a wide array of information in the files once the collection is open to the public. He said the collection included all the legislation he sponsored in the Assembly, correspondences sent to the office from constituents, many photographs and much more. He also said that there are files on the major events of the era, including: the Akwesasne war of 1989-90; sea lamprey eradication in Lake



Champlain; the formation of the Battle of Plattsburgh Association; the 1998 Ice Storm; and the closing of Plattsburgh Air Base.

Debra Kimok, Special Collections librarian, said the acquisition of the papers would be a treasure trove for historians and others.

"Not only is it a rich resource for community researchers and interested parties, but also for our students. I can think of several departments at SUNY Plattsburgh that could make good use of this information."

She said that it would take a while to process the papers before making them available for review by the public.

"I estimate that it will take about two years to catalogue the many news releases, legislative memoranda, newsletters, correspondences, letters, reports, studies and publications, photographs, clippings and other archival resources. But, once we have completed that process, the materials will be available to the public."

Ortloff said he hopes that the public will find a significant number of human stories in them more so than about him and his work as an assemblyman for North Country residents. "It really isn't about me; it about the people I represented," said Ortloff. "That why it made sense to donate them to Special Collections where so many of the things that the community is proud of are recorded." □

# History Department Welcomes This Year's McLellen Distinguished Visiting Professor

With the support of a generous bequest from the estate of Hulda McLellen, the Department of History welcomes Marge Bruchac as this year's McLellen Distinguished Visiting Professor of North Country History and Culture. She will be in residence at Plattsburgh from March 23 to April 27.

Bruchac (Abenaki) is a well-known performer, scholar and historical consultant. She is a doctoral candidate in anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and has published several recent articles on the Deerfield Raid of 1704, Native Americans in archaeology and other Native American topics.

The national Wordcraft Circle of

Native American Writers and Storytellers recognized Bruchac as "Storyteller of the Year" three times, with awards for public performance (2000), historical writing (2002) and academic writing (2004).

The highlight of Bruchac's stay will be a public presentation on Thursday, April 5, from 8 to 9:30 p.m. The presentation, "Native People in the Adirondacks: Ancient Places and Hidden Histories," will reveal that notwithstanding the image of the Adirondacks as an uninhabited wilderness that was emptied of Native American people, a closer examination of the family histories of men and women who worked as Indian doctors, basketmakers and guides during the late 1800s shows

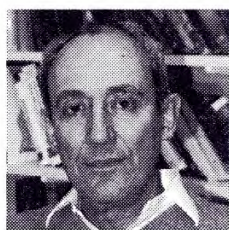
how they managed to hide in plain sight from their white neighbors.

Bruchac will also teach a related mini-course titled, "Abenaki History on Lake Champlain : Encounters in Ndakinna." The class will meet on six consecutive Fridays, beginning on March 23, and will include two Saturday field trips to public history sites in the Champlain Valley.

"The course will introduce students to Abenaki Indian history in Ndakinna – "our homeland" – in the Champlain Valley," said Bruchac.

"We will sample various literary, linguistic, archaeological and historical records that reveal oral traditions, narratives, material culture, relations to the landscape and inter-cultural relationships." □

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



**Dr. Anthony J. D'Aristotile**, professor of mathematics, was the featured speaker at a conference held at the Pennsylvania State University Harrisburg campus on Nov. 9, 2006. The title of the talk was "Some Facts about a Well Shuffled Deck of Cards." He also gave a talk on a recent paper, "Brownian Motion and the Unitary Group," at the Statistics Department at Stanford University. In this paper, he solved a problem that had been posed five years earlier in an article written by him and colleagues from Stanford and the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences. D'Aristotile was also reappointed for the sixth consecutive year to teach a course in probability taken by both graduate and undergraduate students during the summer quarter at Stanford. The lectures are also transmitted live on the internet to the campuses of major corporations including IBM, Cisco Systems, General Electric, Microsoft and Boeing.



**Dr. Meiyin Wu**, associate professor of earth and environmental science, coauthored an article titled, "Can ultrasound eradicate water chestnut?" It appeared in the March issue of the *Journal of Ecological Restoration*.

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[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## Career Night Provides Networking Opportunities for Students

**Students will have an opportunity to meet with representatives of more than 55 businesses** and organizations during the 31st annual Career Night on Thursday, March 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Angell College Center.

Career Night is one of the most important events that the Career Development Center (CDC) sponsors for students, according to Carolyn Delcore, director of the CDC.

"Career night provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain valuable networking experience with a variety of employers in a career fair setting," said Delcore.

The event emphasizes information exchange and can help students broaden their perspectives on career options.

"We expect representatives from business and industry, law enforcement, health care, media, human services and more," Delcore said.

Employers will have information on careers and job placement for seniors as well as part-time and summer employment.

Also in attendance will be representatives from several graduate



programs. Seniors will have the opportunity to gain valuable information about post-graduate study in a number of fields.

In preparation for the event, the CDC is sponsoring two workshops, titled, "Preparing For a Career Fair," to help students make a good impression on Career Night. The workshops will be Thursday, March 22 at 11 a.m., and Tuesday, March 27, at 3 p.m. in Kehoe 6th floor conference room.

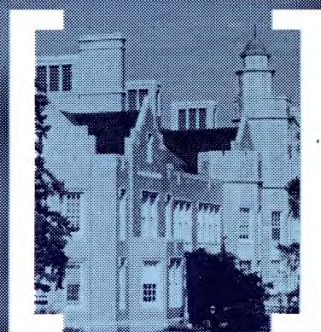
For more information, contact the Center at 564-2071. □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- National Alcohol Screening Day is Thursday, April 5. Individuals who believe they or a friend may be experiencing an alcohol problem are invited to take part in a free, anonymous alcohol screening, and will benefit from a short 10 minute meeting with a counselor to discuss the results of the screening and to provide referrals if necessary. The screening will be at 7 p.m. in the Cardinal Lounge, Angell College Center. For more information, call 564-3086 or 564-4825.
- Hands-On Van Training classes are scheduled for Wednesday, April 4 and Tuesday, April 17. Classes are held in the Service Building Maintenance & Operations conference room from 1 to 4 p.m. The dates/times to sign up for the driving classes are at the Angell Center Help Desk. All van drivers must complete the two-part course prior to using a 15-passenger style van. In addition, participants must have authorization under the Driver's Safety Review and Authorization Policy, which includes the License Event Notification System (LENS). Applications are available from their department chairs or University Police (564-2022). Contact Gina Doty, 564-5011, with any questions.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



APRIL 6, 2007



Pershyn



Wright



Hutchinson



Sitnitsky



## Five Graduating Seniors Honored with the Chancellor's Award for Excellence

**Five SUNY Plattsburgh seniors have been selected to receive the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.**

Kristen Buck, Jenny Hutchinson, Carianne Pershyn, Ilona Sitnitsky and Chrissa Wright will be honored at a special ceremony on Wednesday, April 18, in Albany.

"On behalf of SUNY Plattsburgh, I want to congratulate these students," said President John Ettling. "They have worked hard and excelled in and out of the classroom. I am looking forward to seeing these scholars recognized for representing the College so admirably."

Chancellor's Award winners must have a strong academic record as well as demonstrated significant contributions to the greater campus community.

Buck is a senior communication disorders and sciences student from Hoosick Falls, N.Y. She has participated in an undergraduate practicum and advanced honors thesis and was recognized as an outstanding psychology student.

Hutchinson, a senior fine arts student

from Queensbury, N.Y., is a member of the track and field team. She is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies. She was the recipient of the Provost Award in spring 2006.

Pershyn, a senior ecology major from North Tonawanda, N.Y., is one of the first students to graduate in the College's new ecology major. She is the recipient of the James A. Fitzpatrick Memorial Scholarship and was awarded outstanding achievement in undergraduate research for her work with the Lake Champlain Research Institute.

Sitnitsky, a senior physics and mathematics major and chemistry minor from Herzeliya, Israel, has been working with Dr. George Flynn on analyzing space dust for NASA and is the recipient of the Science Hudson Scholarship.

Wright, a senior biochemistry and biology major from Bernhards Bay, N.Y., received a Sigma Xi grant for her research with Dr. Nancy Elwess and has been honored with several national awards for her research. □

*"I am looking forward to seeing these scholars recognized for representing the College so admirably."*

— President John Ettling

## College Offers Unique Summer Session Advantage

**For the second consecutive year, every summer course at SUNY Plattsburgh will be offered** provided at least one student is enrolled.

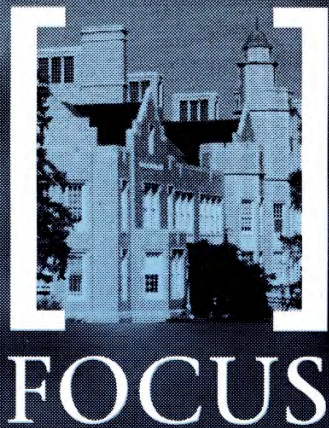
Summer students have an advantage because they don't have to worry about last minute course cancellations as they may have to at other colleges. The College decided

to continue to offer its unique course guarantee to better serve students and ensure that summer session remains a viable and integral part of the academic offerings.

More general education and online courses have also been added to better meet student needs. Research indicates many students want to fulfil general

education requirements and like the flexibility of taking online courses during the summer.

Students can catch up, get ahead, or improve their GPA with 200 guaranteed courses. Summer registration began April 1. Find out more at [www.plattsburgh.edu/summer](http://www.plattsburgh.edu/summer). □



## Students Finalists in Competition

**The National Broadcasting Society named eight communication students as finalists** in its National Student Production Competition.

"We are proud of these students and their accomplishments," said Peter Ensel '80, associate professor and co-director of the Center for Communication and Journalism. "These honors further exhibit the strength of our programs and their competitiveness in both a national and international arena."

Students competing in this year's competition are from colleges and universities across the country, including University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Miami and Marshall University, to name a few.

Students nominated for the awards included: Justin Halstead from Albany, N.Y., Ashley Kelley from Stanley, N.C., Nicole Vitallo from Schenectady, N.Y., Damien Quinlan from Plattsburgh, N.Y., Jared Stanley from Peru, N.Y., and Marcel Longo from Milford, N.Y., Austin Bordeleau from Chazy, N.Y., and Mike Cameron from Oneida, N.Y.

## Institute for Ethics in Public Life Provides Fellows Intellectual Stimulation

**What role do ethics play in different disciplines?** This semester's three fellows at the Institute for Ethics in Public Life are seeking the answer to this question. Dr. Beth Dixon, associate professor of philosophy, Robert Harsh, interim associate director of the Educational Opportunity Program and adjunct lecturer in sociology and criminal justice, and Dr. Jessamyn Neuhaus, assistant professor of history, are spending their spring semester delving into the ethical issues within their fields as well as in society.

Dr. Thomas Moran '69, founding director of the institute and SUNY distinguished service professor of education and psychology, said the fellows do extensive reading and scholarly projects on ethics and how it relates to their discipline during the semester.

"The institute gives the fellows the opportunity to become more sophisticated in these issues. They develop ways to incorporate ethics into their classes in a more complex and comprehensive way," said Moran.

Dixon has three objectives as a fellow this semester. She hopes to contribute to college-wide efforts to educate students about civic engagement, build community partnerships and to work on the philosophy department's ethics and social philosophy study option.

"I am also working on creating a new course, community service and the public good," said Dixon. "As a fellow, I get to talk to my colleagues about important ideas. The institute is a gem, a great opportunity, and I value it quite a bit."

Harsh is focusing his time on education opportunities in terms of social justice and individual equality. He is using concepts from W.E.B. DuBois and applying them forward into the current debate on equality.



"My time at the institute has shown to me a model of what study can be, and I've enjoyed it so much. It's everything a college should be," said Harsh.

Newhaus has three goals this semester. She wants to learn how to help students better understand ethics in society, create the course "Society, Culture and Ethics" and work on her second book project, which will investigate the depiction of housewives in advertising.

"This has been a fantastic semester so far. You have the feeling of being a part of an intellectual community. I have ideas in my head all the time and having the space and intellectual stimulation to delve into them is hard to get in a regular semester," said Neuhaus.

Dixon, who was a member of the original team that created the model for the faculty seminar, agrees with Neuhaus. "I have more time to think about these important issues," said Dixon.

Neuhaus continued, "The whole project is interdisciplinary, and the institute fosters communication across disciplines."

"Fellows have the ability to focus on civic issues in society that you often don't have time to think about," said Harsh. "As a fellow, I have been given a chance to investigate philosophy. It's a whole different language." □

# Defibrillators Expected to Help Save Lives

**SUNY Plattsburgh, along with several other SUNY schools,** has recently received funding through SUNY System Administration in Albany for the installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AED).

An AED is a portable electronic device that diagnoses and treats cardiac arrest by re-establishing an effective heart rhythm. This treatment is called defibrillation, which applies an electric shock to the entire heart muscle, uniformly clearing the electrical activity of the heart, hopefully allowing it to resynchronize.

By 2010, the College will have 112 AEDs installed on campus. Every building on campus housing will have at least one of these devices, which are state mandated.

Dr. Kathleen Camelo, director of the Center for Student Health and Psychological Services, said that having these devices on campus is important.

"They are a wonderful initiative," said Camelo. "They will pay off with saving a life. I am extremely supportive of the AEDs on campus."

"The state has adopted a law known as 'Public Access to Defibrillation' for state-owned entities," said Edward Bortnick, director of environmental health and safety.

When an AED is opened for use, it automatically starts to dictate to the respondent how to use the device and the proper ways to prep the patient in order to use the AED.

The voice activation systems goes

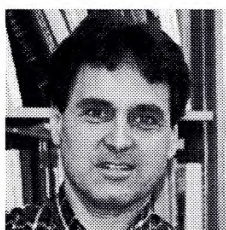
through a step by step process how to remove clothing from the patient, how to open the pads and where to place the pads.

A special training course is also offered to receive instruction on proper handling of the device. Those trained will also be CPR certified through the American Heart Association.

The comprehensive training program designed to teach trainees how to operate the devices in a timely manner was devised by SUNY Stony Brook. The program is computerized so that it can monitor when the AEDs need to have batteries changed and when AED operators need recertification. □

— Jennifer Newman

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE

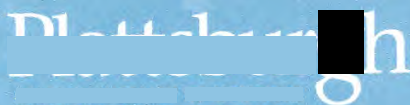


**Drs. David Franzi and Mary Roden-Tice** of the Center for Earth and Environmental Science recently led a team of SUNY Plattsburgh geology and earth science students to the annual meeting of the Northeastern Section of the Geological Society of America in Durham, N.H., to present the results of their recent research. Roden-Tice chaired a session on Mesozoic Extension, Exhumation, Sedimentation and Magmatism in the Northern Appalachians and gave an oral presentation titled "Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous Exhumation in Eastern Massachusetts and Connecticut Based on Apatite Fission Track Age Gradients and Discontinuities." Senior earth science student Jared Semerad presented a talk titled "Comparison of Apatite Fission Track Ages and Trace Element Concentrations in Apatites from Iron Ore Deposits in the Adirondack Mountains in New York State and Carbonatites in Southern Ontario," which was co-authored by Roden-Tice and Marian Lupulescu. Michael Gionet and Danelle Cuffy, senior geology majors, presented a poster on the "Spatial Distribution of Baseflow Discharge in the Little Chazy River Watershed, Champlain Lowland, New York," co-authored by Franzi. Franzi was also a coauthor on an oral presentation titled, "Cosmogenic Exposure Dating of an Ice-Marginal Flood Scour and Boulder Bar near the New York/Quebec Border" presented by SUNY Plattsburgh geology alumnus Dr. John Rayburn.

*To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)*



# FOCUS



FOCUS is published eight times per semester by the Office of Public Relations at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh.

**Editor:** Frances Hagen Dumenci  
**Art Director:** Paula Trahan '85  
**Assistant Editor:** Gerianne Wright

Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule  
 April 20  
 May 4

To submit a story idea for FOCUS, please email [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu). Information for inclusion in the "Notebook" section must be received two weeks prior to publication date. (See above fall schedule for dates.)

**Institutional Advancement**  
 Office of Public Relations  
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 564-2090 • 564-2094 (fax)  
[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## Presidents' Speaker Series to Feature NewsHour Correspondent April 16

The Presidents' Speaker Series presents a lecture by Ray Suarez on **Monday, April 16**, at 8 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall.

Suarez, senior correspondent for NewsHour with Jim Lehrer on PBS, will present "Diversity in Journalism." With an extensive background in journalism, Suarez has 30 years of varied experience in the news business. He joined the NewsHour in October 1999 as a Washington-based senior correspondent. Prior to that, he worked for National Public Radio (NPR) where he had been host of the nationwide, call-in news program "Talk of the Nation" since 1993.

Suarez also served as a Los Angeles correspondent for CNN, a producer for the ABC Radio Network in New York, a reporter for CBS Radio in Rome and a reporter for various American and British news services in London. He currently hosts the monthly public radio foreign affairs series "America Abroad" for Public Radio International and is the narrator for "American Radio Works," the documentary unit of American Public Media.



He holds a bachelor's degree in African history from New York University and a master's degree in the social sciences from the University of Chicago.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., he lives in Washington, D.C. and is the author of "The Holy Vote" and "The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration."

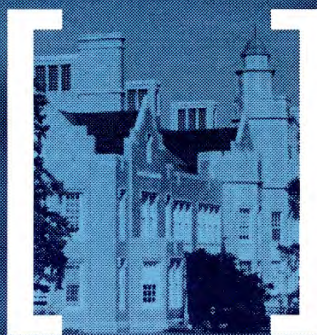
The Presidents' Speaker Series is sponsored by the presidents of SUNY Plattsburgh, the Student Association and College Auxiliary Services. □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- The next regularly scheduled College Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12, at 1 p.m. in Sibley Hall, room 416. In addition to the regular campus reports and updates, the council will also hear a presentation about the new global supply chain management program in the School of Business and economics. The meeting is open to the public.
- The Third Annual Autism Awareness Walk will be held at the U.S. Oval on Sunday, April 22. Games, music, face painting and other family activities start at 10 a.m.; the walk starts at 11 a.m. Proceeds from the walk benefit SUNY Plattsburgh's Nexus program and Autism Speaks. Nexus provides a range of services for families of children with autism spectrum disorders, including an after-school and summer program for children with Asperger Syndrome. Autism Speaks recently merged with Cure Autism Now to become the largest national organization devoted to helping people with autism spectrum disorders. For more information on the Autism Awareness Walk, please contact [plattsburghwalk@aol.com](mailto:plattsburghwalk@aol.com) or call 564-3381.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSB



APRIL 20, 2007

## Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management Program Accredited

The **Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management (HRTM) Program** in the School of Business and Economics (SBE) has received accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA), the premier accrediting body of hospitality programs nationwide.

This honor, granted to only one other college in the SUNY system, recognizes excellence in the areas of: mission and objectives; evaluation and planning; administration and governance; curriculum; faculty/instructional staff; student services; and activities and resources.

President John Ettling said he was very pleased that the HRTM Program successfully achieved accreditation on its first attempt.

"To earn accreditation, a program must demonstrate a steadfast commitment to quality," said Ettling. "Our students can take pride in the fact that their degrees come from a school recognized within the profession for maintaining the highest standards. More than ever,

graduate programs and employers are admitting and hiring students from accredited programs."

"We have a quality HRTM program and are especially pleased that this was confirmed by receiving national accreditation," said Dr. Raymond Guydosh, associate professor and chair of HRTM.

"The HRTM faculty did a tremendous amount of work to achieve this distinction. We are proud that the accreditation team characterized our program as 'very impressive' and that they were extremely complimentary about our faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters in the community."

Some of the points specifically mentioned by the ACPHA team included the high quality of Samuel D's, the student-operated restaurant, and the positive comments from students.

"Accreditation is hard work, but work that is most valuable for our students," said Dr. Colin Read, dean of SBE.

The accreditation is granted for seven years and will result in a re-accreditation visit in 2014. □

*"The HRTM faculty did a tremendous amount of work to achieve this distinction."*

— Dr. Raymond Guydosh  
Associate Professor and HRTM Chair

## Commission to Study Center City Issues

Practical proposals to issues facing the center city of Plattsburgh will be the focus of a joint city/college commission this spring.

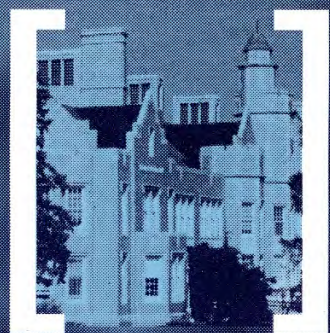
The commission of nine individuals - city residents and college representatives - is expected to issue a report, including recommendations on possible ways to improve the quality of

life in the center city, by mid July of this year. Dr. Edward Miller, chemistry professor and former interim provost, is chairing the commission.

Individuals appointed to the commission by President John Ettling and Plattsburgh Mayor Donald Kasprzak are Neil Fesette, Karen Larkin, Nancy Monette, William Provost, Alyssa

Amyotte, William Laundry, Stephen Matthews and Allison Swick-Duttine.

Ettling said, "I look to this commission for positive, creative ideas that will improve the lives for all residents - homeowners and students- living in this area of Plattsburgh." □



## FOCUS

### Programs Listed in Guidebook

**A popular publication used by high school counselors, parents and students** listed the School of Business and Economics (SBE) and the Center for Communication and Journalism as programs in its "very selective" category.

*Rugg's Recommendations on the Colleges* is available in more than 80 percent of America's high schools and libraries. The guidebook has been designated nationally as a "revered staple, the book parents and students must start with" in the search for a college to attend.

SUNY Plattsburgh's geology and nursing programs were also listed in the guidebook's selective category. The Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management program within SBE was considered a specialized program and was highly ranked in that category.

Each of the College's main academic divisions, education, health and human services, SBE and Arts and Science, has a program of distinction listed in Rugg's.

The publication thinned out college departments nationwide to list the top 12 percent. □

## Brendan Kinney Settling into New Role as Executive Director

**Brendan Kinney began his new role as executive director of marketing and public relations** in the Institutional Advancement Division at SUNY Plattsburgh on April 4. Kinney will oversee the marketing and communication efforts for the College.

Kinney previously served as director of advancement services and the Saint Michael's Fund at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt.

"My career started in marketing and public relations," said Kinney. "Over time, I became more involved in development, but I always remained connected to communications. This position is an opportunity to return to my roots and do what I love most, which is tackling communication challenges in a collaborative environment."

Anne Hansen, vice president of Institutional Advancement, said, "We are thrilled to have Brendan join the advancement team. I know that with his knowledge and expertise, he will create new and exciting ways to tell the 'Plattsburgh Story' and raise the profile of the College."

Kinney's immediate goals are to learn more about SUNY Plattsburgh and to meet with people from across campus while he gets to know the Plattsburgh community in general. His initial efforts will also focus on assessing the overall team in marketing and communications and the various programs.

"We need to ensure that we manage those projects that are underway or already planned. We also need to talk about new projects that can have an immediate and positive impact on the institution. Longer term, our team will collaborate on a strategic plan for the next fiscal year to address the many communications and marketing opportunities that are there for the College." □



Kinney graduated from Saint Michael's College with a bachelor's in English literature in 1993 and earned his master's in education from Saint Michael's in 2006. His wife, Mary Brodsky, is a human resources specialist for Customs and Border Protection in Williston, Vt. The couple has three children – Liam, Eleanor, and Henry.

Kinney said that his first impression of SUNY Plattsburgh is a good one.

"The more people I come into contact with, the more excited I am to be here and to be a part of this wonderful community. I am looking forward to working with the faculty, staff and administration on achieving the College's marketing and public relations goals," said Kinney.

Kinney will also address staffing needs in marketing and public relations with the departures of Mark Mastrean, the former director of marketing and publications, and Frances Hagen Dumenci, the director of public relations.

Mastrean has taken on a new opportunity in the Library and Information Services Division as the new assistant to the dean for communications.

Hagen Dumenci is leaving the College May 14, and is moving to Richmond, Va., where her husband has accepted a faculty position at Virginia Commonwealth University. Hagen Dumenci has been at SUNY Plattsburgh since October 1999. □

# Dr. Robert Davis Fills Special Faculty Assignment as College Assessment Coordinator

**Dr. Robert Davis, professor of speech communication and disorders,** has taken on a new part-time faculty assignment as the college assessment coordinator effective July 1.

"In addition to my teaching and research efforts, I am excited to have the opportunity to also play a role in this process working with the College community," said Davis.

He will serve as the overall coordinator of college assessment efforts, including departmental, general education and institutional assessment. He will review departmental annual assessment reports to ensure departmental compliance with institutional requirements.

Davis will also review the quality of

these reports and the departmental use of the assessment program improvement and future planning results.

"The use of assessment results to improve programs in terms of achieving student outcomes is a fundamental component of our mission," said Davis. "Good planning and effective teaching is based, in part, on continued analysis of our work, and effective assessments should be employed that relate to the goals we intend to achieve for our students, ourselves and the College."

Working with the General Education Assessment Committee, Davis will make sure that the College remains in compliance with SUNY's general education assessment

requirements and that the results of the assessment are incorporated into the review process for the general education program.

As coordinator, Davis will also serve as liaison to the Campus Planning Committee. The role of the liaison will help ensure that the results of assessments done across the College feed into SUNY Plattsburgh's planning efforts.

In addition, Davis will assist in making sure that the College is in compliance with Middle States expectations for assessment as the College prepares for its 2012 Middle States Ten-Year Review.

The assignment of college assessment coordinator will be effective from 2007 to 2012. □

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



**Dr. Mohamed Djerdjouri**, professor in the School of Business and Economics, presented a paper, titled, "Measuring Technical and Scale Efficiency of Public Hospitals in the UAE: A Pilot Study," at the annual Business, Information Technology and Management Academy (BIMA) conference, March 17-20, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).



**Dr. Jean Ouédraogo**, associate professor and chair of foreign languages and literature recently published "Un fleuve métis: entretien avec Mama Keïta" in *L'Afrique fait son cinéma: regards et perspectives sur le cinéma africain francophone*, a book edited by Françoise Naudillon, Janusz Przychodzen and Sathya Rao. He attended the 20th edition of FESPACO, the premier African film festival in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Ouédraogo also presented a paper, titled, "L'esthétique du temps dans le théâtre d'Amadou Koné," at the 33rd annual conference of the African Literature Association held in Morgantown, W.V., March 14-18. His book, *Maryse Condé et Ahmadou Kourouma: griots de l'indicible*, received an excellent review in *Dalhousie French Studies*, vol. 72/73.

*To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)*



## FOCUS

# Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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**Editor:** Frances Hagen Dumenci  
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Spring 2007 FOCUS Schedule  
May 4

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**Institutional Advancement**  
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[news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)

## Faculty Support College Through Gifts to the Foundation

**Faculty and staff support of the Plattsburgh College Foundation** remains an important strength at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Nearly 300 members of the campus community have pledged their support by donating to the foundation.

"We have 293 faculty and staff donors thus far this year, compared to the 298 who made a gift last year. With time remaining in the current academic and fiscal year, we have the opportunity to surpass last year's mark," said Anne Hansen, vice president for Institutional Advancement.

Hansen said that the number of faculty and staff that support the College annually is more important than the dollar amount that is received from faculty and staff.

"It is very worthwhile, however, to recognize that, in addition to working hard to fulfill the mission of the College in their daily work, faculty and staff have given a total of \$103,627 so far this year. That is certainly an impressive number," she said.

President John Ettling said he was also proud of the support by the campus community members.

"Faculty and staff support enriches the experience that we are able to offer students because they are providing additional resources that would not otherwise exist. They help the College to provide an improved learning and living environment," said Ettling.

Hansen said that strong participation in the annual giving program by faculty and staff enables the advancement team to share a very positive story with the external community.

"We are able to tell our alumni and friends that in addition to teaching in the classroom, maintaining the campus, nurturing a positive residential experience and supporting the business of running a College -- our faculty and staff also support the College charitably," said Hansen. "Our strongest asset is the people who make up this learning community. Strong annual participation by faculty and staff is, in a sense, yet another indication of the tremendous dedication of those on campus. When our alumni learn of this charitable support, it increases their motivation to give as well." □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- Twenty-two studio artists and one art historian will present their 2007 Senior Exhibition of more than 250 works. The exhibition opens Saturday, April 21. Student lectures begin in Hartman Theatre at 3 p.m., followed by a reception at 4 p.m. The show will be on display until May 12 in both the Burke and Myers Lobby Galleries of the Plattsburgh State Art Museum.
- The Music Department presents its annual Jazz Festival Concert on Friday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium, Hawkins Hall. The program will feature guest artist Charles Ellison on trumpet playing alongside the College's Jazz Ensemble and Contemporary Combo. Tickets are \$8 for general admission; \$5 for faculty, staff, seniors and non-SUNY Plattsburgh students; and \$2 for SUNY Plattsburgh students. Ellison will also host a workshop, "Scat Singing as an Aid to Improvisation," which will be held on Friday, April 27, at 3 p.m. in the E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. The workshop is free and open to all. For more information, contact the Music Department at 564-2180.

# FOCUS

PUBLISHED BY SUNY PLATTSBURGH FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY



MAY 4, 2007



*"I called my mom, who is a second-grade teacher, and her whole class clapped for me."*

— Megan Jensen  
Student Commencement Speaker

## Commencement Signals End of Academic Year

**More than 900 students are eligible to participate in the two Spring Commencement ceremonies** on Saturday, May 13, at the Field House.

The first ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. for students majoring in programs within the Division of Education, Health and Human Services and the School of Business and Economics. The second ceremony will commence at 2 p.m. for students in the Division of Arts and Science.

The student speaker for both ceremonies will be Megan Jensen, a food and nutrition major from Plattsburgh. She is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Omicron Upsilon and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies and will be graduating summa cum laude.

"I'm very excited," said Jensen. "I called by mom, who is a second-grade teacher, and her whole class clapped for me."

Elizabeth and Michael Jensen will have two daughters graduating from SUNY Plattsburgh on May 12. Megan's sister, Jenifer, will receive her master's in education during the morning cere-

mony. Her younger sister, Amy, is a junior at Plattsburgh High School.

"All my education has occurred on Broad and Rugar streets," said Jensen, who went to St. John's Academy, Stafford Middle School and Plattsburgh High School before coming to SUNY Plattsburgh.

Jensen will get just one week of rest following commencement before she starts at Albany College of Pharmacy.

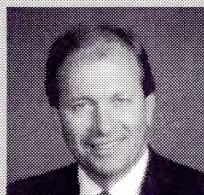
"The science courses and teachers are just phenomenal, and they inspired me to go to pharmacy school," she said.

Several distinguished awards will also be presented during the ceremonies.

Trent Trahan, a 1970 alumnus of SUNY Plattsburgh, and Dr. Douglas Skopp, distinguished teaching professor of history, will be honored with the Distinguished Service Award, which is presented by the College Council.

Kevin '87 and JoAnn '85 Romano will also be presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award by Douglas McManus '89 G'91, president of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association. □

## Trent Trahan Honored with Distinguished Service Award



**Trent Trahan, president and CEO of Champlain Telephone**

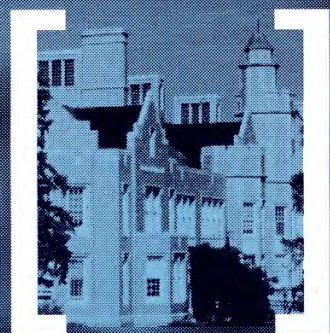
Company, will be honored with the Distinguished Service Award during the Spring Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 12.

Trahan served as president of the Plattsburgh College Foundation from 2001 to 2006. He was the first SUNY Plattsburgh alumnus to lead the Foundation. As chair of the 2000 Business Partners Campaign, he led that program to new heights.

Currently, Trahan serves as the co-chair of the Business Advisory Council,

which supports the School of Business and Economics

The Distinguished Service Award is presented by the College Council to honor persons who have made a lasting contribution to the College, community, state, nation and/or the international human community. □



## FOCUS

### Women's Hockey Team Honored

**The National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III National Champion Women's Ice Hockey Team and Women's Ice Hockey Coach of the Year** were honored during a special community-wide dinner April 21.

SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling and his wife, Lisa Lewis, hosted a buffet dinner to honor the champion women's ice hockey team and Head Coach Kevin Houle.

The gala event, which was sponsored by the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, the College Foundation and several faculty and staff, included speeches by Houle, Erin O'Brien, the assistant women's ice hockey coach, and Bree Doyle, a three-year goaltender on the Cardinals team.

New York State Assemblywoman Janet Duprey and New York State Senator Elizabeth Little congratulated the team on their success.

The night also featured a DVD produced by communication students highlighting the team's season and rise to the championship.

The team went undefeated and ended its season with a 27-0-2 record. □

### Faculty, Staff Honored with Chancellor's Awards

**Four faculty and one staff member at SUNY Plattsburgh have been selected** to receive the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

Dr. Robert Christopherson, professor of economics and finance, and JoEllen Miano, associate professor of music, will receive the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Timothy Mihuc, associate professor of earth and environmental science, is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activity.

Dr. Raymond Guydosh, associate professor of hotel, restaurant and tourism management, is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service.

Rose Anderson, director of alumni affairs and executive director of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, is the recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service.

The recipients will be honored during the President's Opening Day Welcome prior to the start of the fall semester in late August.

Christopherson joined the faculty in 1990 and was promoted to associate professor in 2000 and full professor in 2005. He received two bachelor degrees, one in economics and the other in psychology, and a master's degree from Central Michigan University. He earned his doctorate at Wayne State University.

"Dr. Christopherson is known as a caring, dedicated and highly effective teacher, highly regarded by his students," said President John Ettling.

Miano came to SUNY Plattsburgh in 1994. She received her bachelor's in music from Boston University and her master's from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

"Ms. Miano is a talented and gifted teacher who brings passion for her discipline of music to her students,



the campus and the larger community," said Ettling.

Mihuc joined the faculty of SUNY Plattsburgh in 1999 and was promoted to associate professor in 2002. He received his bachelor's degree from Oral Roberts University and master's degree from Oklahoma State University. He earned his doctorate from Idaho State University.

"Dr. Mihuc, as coordinator of the Lake Champlain Research Institute, has led the institute as it has become a dynamic major research player within the Adirondack-Champlain Basin," said Ettling.

Guydosh has been a member of the SUNY Plattsburgh faculty for some 30 years. He received his undergraduate degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology and his master's degree from the University of Maryland. He received a second master's degree from the Tipper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University where he also earned his doctorate degree.

"Dr. Guydosh is a dedicated and committed faculty leader on our campus and beyond. His record of service is truly remarkable," said Ettling.

Anderson joined alumni affairs in 1986 and became its director in 1997. She received her bachelor's degree from SUNY Plattsburgh in 1995.

"Ms. Anderson is an energetic and resourceful professional who continually seeks to enhance the work of others. She is tirelessly engaged with alumni from across the country," said Ettling. □

# Dr. Douglas Skopp to Retire From Teaching After More Than 30 Years

Since 1972, Dr. Douglas Skopp has been teaching history at SUNY Plattsburgh. After thousands of classes and just as many students, Skopp is retiring from teaching effective July 1.

"It has been fun seeing the institution grow," said Skopp, distinguished teaching professor of history and college historian. "The College is much healthier now than at any other time I've been here."

Skopp will continue on a part-time basis in his role as college historian "to help promote what this College stands for and its potential by looking at where its been over its past." He will be working on a follow-up to his 1989 pictorial history of the College, *Bright With Promise*.

A recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence and the Faculty/Staff Impact Award presented by the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, Skopp will be honored during the Spring Commencement Ceremonies with the Distinguished Service Award by the College Council.

"It is an honor just to be nominated for the Distinguished Service Award," Skopp said.

Skopp has had the opportunity to teach a multitude of history courses, from European history and history survey courses to World War II history and more.

"I have enjoyed coming to work everyday. The College has allowed me to retain interest in a lot of dif-



ferent areas, rather than focused on a narrow field of history.

"Everyday is a new day in teaching, and I had the chance to teach all over the map in terms of history courses. I can't image any better opportunity elsewhere than here. I was so freely able to work with students in our partnership of learning." □

## >> FACULTY AND STAFF SHOWCASE



**Dr. Kurtis Hagen**, assistant professor of philosophy, authored the book, *The Philosophy of Xunzi: A Reconstruction*, which was being published by Open Court Press. Xunzi, who was the most systematic of the early Chinese thinkers, has been called "the Aristotle of the East." He is most famous for his (often misunderstood) slogan: "Human nature is detestable." But Xunzi's aim was to devise a reliable way for people to become good, and to achieve a stable and harmonious society.

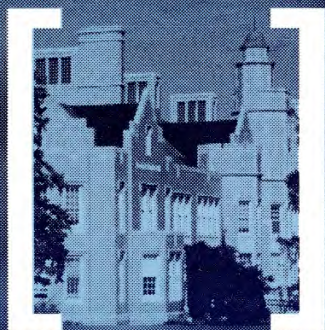


**Dr. Lenny Lock**, assessment/data manager in Education, Health and Human Services, has been named to the Board of Directors of NAMI: CV (National Alliance on Mental Illness of Champlain Valley).



**Dr. Daniel Vogt**, professor of biology, presented "Assessment of Student Knowledge and Understanding of Biology" during a poster session on education at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in San Francisco in February. The Biology Department's assessment program evaluates how effectively the undergraduate curriculum in biology supports the goals and expected outcomes of the College and was presented as a model for adoption by other institutions.

*To submit an entry for Faculty and Staff Showcase, please send information to [news@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:news@plattsburgh.edu)*



# FOCUS

## Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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## New Piece of High Tech Equipment Finds Home in Hudson

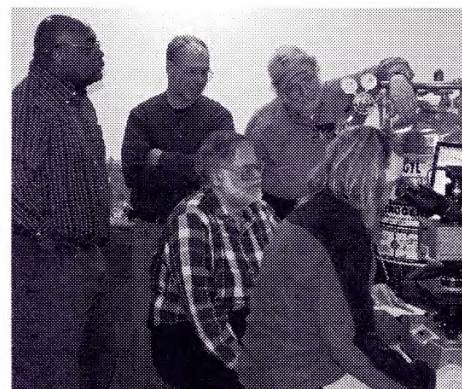
**A new infrared spectrometer and microscope will aid in faculty and student research** in a variety of science disciplines at SUNY Plattsburgh including physics, chemistry and the Lake Champlain Research Institute (LCRI).

The piece of equipment, known as an FTIR, was purchased with funds from a National Science Foundation grant. The proposal for the grant was a joint effort by Dr. Thomas Wolosz, professor of earth and environmental science and chair of chemistry and physics, Dr. George Flynn, professor of mathematics and physics, Dr. Dexter Criss, associate professor of chemistry, and Jeff Jones, instructional support technician in earth and environmental science and the lab manager for LCRI.

"I asked Drs. Flynn and Criss and Jeff Jones to each submit a brief research description, which I combined into one NSF proposal of \$127,000 for the purchase of the FTIR and microscope," said Wolosz.

The grant was approved in September 2006 and the FTIR arrived on campus in February.

"The proposal had to be interdis-



plinary for an undergraduate college like Plattsburgh to receive the level of funding needed for the FTIR. The proposal also emphasized the centrality of LCRI to research efforts. The institute is a hub that connects different scientific disciplines," said Wolosz.

Several student and faculty research projects are underway using the new spectrometer, microscope and software. Flynn, Criss and LCRI all have students working on projects.

"This is an important piece of equipment for us to have. We couldn't do a lot of this research without it. It supports student research and the academic infrastructure of the College," said Wolosz. □

## >> NOTEBOOK

- SUNY Plattsburgh will hold two commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 12 in the Field House. The 10 a.m. commencement ceremony is for those students graduating from the School of Business and Economics and Education, Health and Human Services. Graduating seniors and faculty members should be at the Field House by 9:15 a.m. The 2 p.m. commencement ceremony is for students graduating from Arts and Science. Graduating seniors and faculty members should be at the Field House by 1:15 p.m.
- May Planning Day will be held on Monday, May 14. Coffee and rolls will be served at 8:30 a.m. with the general session beginning at 9 a.m. Following a welcome by President John Ettling, vice presidents John Homburger and Anne Hansen will give reports from their respective divisions. Stanley Supinski will give an update on facilities projects and Vice President Robert Golden will give a presentation on recent surveys. Two break-out sessions will be featured from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.